

Baggage of Addictions

What has Mastered You

2 Peter 2:19 NIV "... for people are slaves to whatever has mastered them."

1 Cor. 6:12 "I have the right to do anything," you say—but not everything is beneficial. "I have the right to do anything"—but I will not be mastered by anything."

Romans 6:12-14 "Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires. **13** Do not offer any part of yourself to sin as an instrument of wickedness, **but rather offer yourselves to God** as those who have been brought from death to life; and **offer every part of yourself** to him as an instrument of righteousness. **14** For sin shall no longer be your **master**..."

1) Offer yourself to God and not to your addiction.

- a) See your life and your body as an offering to God.
- b) Question: What is the one thing that God did not create, he doesn't have and he desperately wants? YOUR SIN
- c) God wants Christ to be the master of our lives and nothing else. LORDSHIP!

2) Declare war on it and tear down the stronghold.

2 Cor. 10:4,5 For though we live in the world, we do not **wage war** as the world does. **4** The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have **divine power** to demolish **strongholds**. We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.

- a) What is a Stronghold? **Simply put it is a constant pull in the wrong direction.**
- b) The bible says there is "Divine Power" available to you to demolish these strongholds.
- c) But We Must Wage War

I am reading a book titled "I Declare War" by Levi Lusko. (I recommend it)

"You Must Declare War on the Version of Yourself that You Don't Want to Be"

Levi Lusko

He admits to battling through moodiness:

"Some people call it a Bad Mood, I call it being held hostage by the version of me, I don't want to be"

Are you being held hostage by a version of yourself that you don't want to be? That's addiction!

d) 3 Areas to Declare War

i) Declare war on what you think.

(1) Negative thoughts will NEVER lead you to a victorious life!

(a) *"I have tried to beat this addiction so many times and failed. This is just who I am"*

(b) *"I am not strong like other people, I don't have what it takes to live free"*

(c) *"Without these pills, without these cigarettes, without this addiction I will lose my mind"*

Jump Start Your Mind: because the same ole thoughts will keep you stuck in the same old life.

We demolish deadly arguments by taking our thoughts captive. You will make fewer wrong decisions when you are thinking the right thoughts

(2) A few Right thoughts: What does the Bible say about me?

(a) God is not stuck with me... He Chose Me! (Eph 1:4)

(b) God is not going to quit on me, He says "For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works" (Eph 2:10)

(c) God will not cast me to the side, He says, no one or nothing can snatch me out of his hand" (Jn. 18:28,29)

(d) God is not going to leave me powerless, He says, "you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon (Acts 1:8) and this promise is to you and your children and all whom the Lord shall call.

ii) Declare war on what you say.

(1) Our thoughts and our words are closely linked and they together have power to build up or tear down.

(2) The person that you talk to the most is YOURSELF!

(3) **MORE BIOLOGY... scientific studies** have proven that the words you speak feed back into the physical thoughts of your mind, reinforcing the memory they came from. When you make negative statements, you release negative chemicals. These negative chemicals make the memories stronger and as you allow them continue, they dominate your thinking. **Whatever you think about the most grows.**

Eph 4:29 ESV Let no corrupting thoughts come out to your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear.

iii) Declare war on what you do.

Your intentions don't matter, your actions do!

(1) The power that leads us to victory is not from us, it comes from God. It is ours because God we belong to God.

(2) Be doers of the word not only hearers

(3) Often times the things we Feel, are not Who we really are.

(4) Decisions you repeat, form the life you lead ----Take back control of your life!

3) Share it don't keep it secret.

a) It is the thing that you keep secret that will destroy you.

b) Mentors: Find a friend, find a mentor.